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Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendation made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 136 appears in the report of the Committee contained in document A/53/545.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 55th, 56th and 62nd meetings, on 10, 11 and 27 May 1999. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/53/SR.55, 56 and 62).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (A/53/784 and A/53/816) and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/53/895 and Add.5).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.55

4. At the 62nd meeting, on 27 May, the Chairman introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan" (A/C.5/53/L.55), submitted on the basis of informal consultations, and orally revised it by replacing the figure 1,370,000 by the figure 1,233,000 in operative paragraph 9.

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.55, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission of Observers, the latest of which was resolution 1206 (1998) of 12 November 1998,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, by which the Council authorized the Secretary-General to expand the size of the Mission of Observers,

Recalling further its resolution 49/240 of 31 March 1995 on the financing of the Mission of Observers and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 53/19 of 2 November 1998,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission of Observers are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission of Observers, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission of Observers,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission of Observers with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan as at 30 April 1999, including the contributions outstanding in the

[1] A/53/784 and A/53/816.

[2] A/53/895 and Add.5.

amount of 3.7 million United States dollars, representing some 7 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission of Observers to the period ending 15 May 1999, notes that some 15 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission of Observers in full and on time;

5. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission of Observers is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission of Observers against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

8. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan the amount of 18,708,926 dollars gross (17,475,926 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission of Observers for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, inclusive of an amount of 930,639 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 182,487 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, to be apportioned, as an ad hoc arrangement, among Member States at a monthly rate of 1,559,077 dollars gross (1,456,327 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B and 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission of Observers beyond 30 June 1999;

9. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,233,000 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000;

10. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance

[3] A/53/895/Add.5.

of 2,408,400 dollars gross (2,048,400 dollars net) in respect of the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

11. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, their share of the unencumbered balance of 2,408,400 dollars gross (2,048,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

12. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission of Observers in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedures and practices established by the General Assembly;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan".